

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending with claim 9 canceled by this paper.

Claim Objections, Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and Claims Amendments

Applicants have amended claims 2 and 3 to remove the objections and claims 3, 5, 6 and 8 to remove the rejections. In addition, applicants have conformed punctuation in claims 6 and 7, and corrected a typographical error in claim 8 by replacing zero with "O" in "5H₂O." Consequently, applicants respectfully submit that these objections and rejections should be withdrawn. With respect to claim 6, applicants are defining an electroplating solution as being made from combined ingredients to ensure protection of applicants' invention in view of the decision in *Exxon Chemical Parts, Inc. v. Lubrizol Corp.*, 35 USPQ2d 1801 (Fed. Cir. 1995). Consequently, applicants are merely providing language to ensure coverage as entitled. Furthermore, applicants respectfully submit that none of these amendments narrow the scope of the claims.

Prior Art Rejections

Applicants acknowledge that claim 9 defines over the prior art of record. Thus, applicants have amended claim 7 to include the substantive features of claim 9, and consequently, applicants respectfully submit that the prior art rejections should be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment should not be construed as acquiescence to any grounds of rejection.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration is courteously requested. If there are any remaining issues which can be expedited by a telephone conference, the examiner is courteously invited to telephone counsel at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,


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